

2 million acres per year, when the Forest Service has under its charge 200 million acres.

We need to bring in the private sector and everybody we can to get ahead on forest thinning and forest management so we don't keep burning our communities down and causing all the air pollution, water quality issues, loss of wildlife. Meanwhile, we are the second-leading importer of lumber in the world.

What are we doing here? It is time for action.

AMERICAN HOSTAGES IN RUSSIA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the horrible and despicable plight of Brittney Griner and Paul Whelan among other hostages and United States citizens held around the world in this particular situation by a despot who wants to use Brittney as a pawn.

This wonderful young woman, 6 feet 9 inches, an Olympian, is now being taken to a labor camp with vicious conditions, food that is disgraceful, conditions that are disgraceful. It is only because of the selfish despot that wants to eliminate democracy, live in an oppressive society, and use her as a vicious pawn.

I warn Americans: When a former President suggests they want to suspend the Constitution, watch Iran that is killing people in the street simply because they want freedom and democracy, and watch Russia every day.

It has been said, oh, you made a highlight or a star out of Brittney Griner. No. It was the outcry of her family and community that said: We just want her home. We want Paul Whelan, a veteran, home.

Yet, this vicious and vile leader thinks that he has something he can dangle in front of our eyes.

I demand that we get strong-handed with him. This young woman needs to be brought home to her family, and it is a disgrace that we cannot get her home.

DACA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KAHELE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the hundreds—no, thousands of DACA recipients and Dreamers who inspire us every day with their art, resiliency, and strength.

Their stories of success, hope, and dreams are the stories of our country and those who truly believe in the American Dream.

Last week, I went to the Kennedy Center, one of the world's most pres-

tigious performing arts venues, here in this very city, to see the Ballet Hispanico.

There, I saw Hugo Pizano Orozco, an artist, a dancer, and a Dreamer. He is a constituent of mine from Espanola, New Mexico.

Hugo and his family are originally from Guanajuato, Mexico. He came to the United States before he was 2 years old.

After moving from Mexico to Espanola, he fell in love with the art that is dance. He attended the New Mexico School for the Arts, which is a very prestigious school in New Mexico dedicated to the arts.

But like many others, his future remained uncertain because of his immigration status. As a senior, he didn't know if his DACA status would be granted.

Once it was finally approved, though, he applied and was accepted to Juilliard, one of the world's most prestigious performing arts schools. Today, he is a renowned dancer and on tour with Ballet Hispanico.

I have a picture of him here because he does inspire with his art form. He inspires me. He soars across the dance floor at the Kennedy Center.

I was moved, so I asked him for his permission to highlight his story, his inspiration to our community and to America of what our Dreamers can do when we let them live their dream, when we let them accomplish what they are capable of doing in our beautiful country.

His story reminds us of the inspiring stories of thousands of Dreamers across our country. His family brought him to the United States in search of a better life, and he found his American Dream.

His story reflects the best of us and what the American Dream is truly about: hopes and dreams for a better future. Like so many others, his story inspires me, gives me hope, and is why I stand here today.

He soars from New Mexico and graces America with his stunning performances, but we find Dreamers in every State and every community.

I want to echo his words today. He said: "Don't think because you are from a small town in New Mexico, you can't go out there and do the thing you want to do."

We need to remember that small places can do big things. Yes, small places can do big things.

□ 1700

Our Dreamers come from all walks of life—small towns, big cities, the rural areas, suburbia, everywhere. They believe they could do more, and with DACA they have done more.

Like Cindy Nava, a fellow New Mexican who came from Chihuahua, Mexico, seeking a better life. Now, as a 35-year-old, she is actually the first-ever DACA recipient to achieve a presidential appointment to work in the Biden administration as a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Housing and

Urban Development. She now works for Marcia Fudge.

Hugo and Cindy are two of the more than 5,000 DACA recipients who make New Mexico a more vibrant place to live.

None of this would have been possible if we didn't have DACA. With the recent court rulings, however, DACA is in immediate danger. We need our Senate Republican colleagues to rise to the moment.

We passed out of this House in the spring of 2021 the American Dream and Promise Act. We now need the Senate to act and work with us to pass bipartisan legislation before the end of the year because it is now or never for our Dreamers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to call upon our colleagues in the Senate to protect DACA recipients before the end of this Congress.

Six years old, Madam Speaker. Six years old. That is the average age recipients of DACA were when they first entered the U.S. through no fault of their own.

Known as Dreamers, these young people have served in our military, attended our schools, and worked in our communities. They have grown up here, eagerly contributing to our neighborhoods and the diversity that makes America great. They are Americans in their heart and their soul and in their minds because this is the only country that they have known.

Many of them are now educated doctors, trusted lawyers, committed schoolteachers, and essential workers. In fact, more than 200,000 of them worked as essential workers during the pandemic keeping us safe, keeping us healthy. Now, because of right-wing attacks on our communities' all-stars, their futures are uncertain.

Madam Speaker, Dreamers need action, and they need it now.

In my home State of Texas, nearly 100,000 Dreamers are at risk of facing deportation, and 30,000 of them live in my hometown of Houston.

They are not strangers; they are not Martians coming in from some alien nation. We are talking about our friends, our neighbors, people we go to church with, people we buy groceries with, people that are just down the street, and they are also part of our families.

For our community, it is now or never. The Senate must put Dreamers over the political tactics of fear and hate. It is simple: we need to put people over politics. We need to put Dreamers over rhetoric. The time is now.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GARCIA. We know that Americans want DACA to be codified. They want our Dreamers to live here.

Indeed, in the United States we know that a bipartisan poll conducted in October 2022 found overwhelming support,

Democrats, Independents, and Republicans all support this. Democrats support it at 93 percent, Independents at 75 percent, and our Republican neighbors, they also support it at 71 percent.

This needs to happen. This needs to happen for us to truly live up to the promise that we could be.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus is holding this Special Order hour. I welcome all of my colleagues who have come to speak before us here today.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ), the chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, who has come with his two daughters, to share with us his thoughts on Dreamers.

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today as chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, as a father of these two beautiful daughters, Sky and Sage, to call on the Senate to act now for Dreamers.

This October, the Fifth Circuit Court ruled that the DACA program is unlawful and set the stage for this incredibly successful and popular program to be struck down by the conservative courts in Texas.

If Congress does not act by the end of this year, the future of thousands of Dreamers will be on the line.

Dreamers like Juan Vasquez from my district—in fact, from Mecca—who, as a senior in high school, was detained by ICE while working in the fields as a farmworker with his parents to help them pay the bills.

After taking him under my wing, as a pre-med student Juan graduated top of his class from UC Berkeley and finished top of his class at UC San Francisco School of Medicine. Now he saves lives. He saves American lives. He saves fathers, mothers, children, daughters, sons, and grandparents every day as an emergency medicine resident in New York City. I think I had some influence, being an emergency physician myself and mentoring him in that path.

If DACA ends, Juan and hundreds of thousands of others will lose their jobs—impacting labor market sectors already experiencing shortages, such as healthcare, education, service industries, food production, and more.

If DACA ends, our economy would lose more than a quarter of a trillion in lost GDP over the next decade. If DACA ends, prices will go up.

If DACA ends, we will see dire and insurmountable ripple effects across our communities and local economies.

For the sake of doing what is right and good and just, and for the sake of our economy and for the hundreds of thousands of Dreamers who call our Nation home and have known no other home, I call on the Senate Republicans to join in good-faith negotiations to find a permanent solution for Dreamers based on the House-passed American Dream and Promise Act. Use it as the framework.

Madam Speaker, I urge every Member of this body, Republicans and

Democrats, to join the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in advocating for a bipartisan DACA deal to be included in the end-of-year omnibus package.

We absolutely must deliver peace of mind for Dreamers and their families. Keep their families together and create opportunity for our economy. The time to act is now. The time of urgency is now.

Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for her leadership for being vice chair of communications for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus because your voice is powerful, your voice carries on, your voice is a voice of true leadership that will continue and be generational.

I appreciate this Special Hour to advocate for our Dreamers and to protect DACA.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative RUIZ for bringing Sky and Sage to the floor of the House today, because as we look at these beautiful, intelligent, curious children—and curious is one of the best things to be, you know, because that means you are curious about the world around you—they are the age of many of our DACA recipients who came with their parents. Their parents made the choice and the children came with them. This is the only home many of the DACA recipients have ever known.

What have they done in this home?

They have brought so many of us joy. They have helped make our schools vibrant. They are caring for our children, for your children, as doctors, teachers, nurses, and accountants. They are in all walks of life. Some of them choose to go into accountancy.

We have the stories here, numerous, from every State and every district, of those who chose to apply for DACA protections.

Right now we know that because of the Fifth Circuit decision that declared DACA unlawful, that these hundreds of young Dreamers and families are afraid for their futures. We must act.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, if I may, I just want to say that the Dreamer issue is not about immigrants, it is about America.

Dreamers are the perfect kind of immigrant that you want in this country. They follow the law. They pay taxes. They are either gainfully employed or have to be studying in order to qualify as a Dreamer under the DACA program.

Now, 70 to 80 percent of all Americas, Democrats and Republicans, support a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. They are our friends. They are our neighbors, firefighters, police officers, and they also serve in the military.

Here is a poster of one of my constituents, Jose Angel Garibay. He was the first servicemember from Orange County to make the ultimate sacrifice for America after 9/11 in Iraq. He died as a Dreamer, as a noncitizen.

Later on, this body saw it appropriate to give him U.S. citizenship posthumously.

Jose shouldn't have waited until after he passed away to become a U.S. citizen because he made the ultimate sacrifice for his new country—the only country he knew, the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to inform you that I represent probably the largest number of Dreamers in the country: Orange County, California. Orange County, the county that Ronald Reagan used to say was the place that good Republicans would go to die.

Not very long ago, my daughter came home with two of her very good friends, and they were both very scared and crying. They said: We are Dreamers. Are we going to be deported? What do we do?

Good, sweet, young ladies—students. I said: You keep studying hard. You keep working hard. You keep following the law. You keep being a good person and let us work on legislation in Washington.

Today, my simple ask from the Senate is: Do the right thing. Stop treating Dreamers as political footballs, you kick them whenever it is appropriate.

I ask the Senate to please pass the Dreamer legislation and give those 2 million Dreamers the opportunity to earn—not to be given—but to earn a pathway to the American Dream.

Again, 70 to 80 percent of Americans agree with this concept. Let's do our job. Let's continue to keep America as the greatest country in the world.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for bringing us the story of such bravery and sacrifice, because across this country Dreamers are participating in every single aspect of our lives, whether it be defending our country in the United States or abroad.

They are firefighters. I have a story here of an amazing firefighter who is from Sacramento, California, and was one of the first Dreamers who became a firefighter. He has now moved on and is pursuing additional studies so that he can pursue a career in health to serve as a PA.

□ 1715

We know that in so many of our areas, we don't have enough doctors and nurses and PAs and nurse practitioners and, yet, this Dreamer is engaged in that very area of study.

Over and over again, if we deny the Dreamers their ability to continue to contribute to our country, we will suffer, whether that be in the area of health, as we just heard from one of our speakers, from our chair, or the area of the arts, or as the numerous teachers, the numerous Dreamers have chosen as their area of expertise and their way of giving back to teach our youngest.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA) to share with us what he knows is happening in Illinois with the numerous Dreamers that live in both his city and in his State.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today with fellow members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus because we are running out of time to save the DACA program. We can save the program through congressional action in the waning days of this Congress.

Since 2012, DACA has created a glimpse of hope. DACA provides temporary legal status to thousands of people who know no other country than ours in the United States. They are our teachers, our nurses, our firefighters, our friends, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

Let's be clear: 75 percent of the American people support DACA. We know it strengthens our economy and makes us a better country, and both Republicans and Democrats agree.

Still, the program has faced multiple court challenges, and if we don't do something to save it, the program will end.

We need to save the DACA program, not only because it grows our economy, but because it is simply the right thing to do.

Let me tell Yesenia's story.

When it became time for a driver's license in high school, Yesenia's teacher forced her to provide a Social Security card, even though he knew Yesenia was undocumented and did not plan to get a license and had no real need to bring a Social Security card to class.

When Yesenia was unable to produce a Social Security card, a classmate mocked her saying, "she can't bring it because she's illegal." Yesenia nearly broke down in tears.

Thanks to DACA, Yesenia was afforded a stability she has never known, no longer carrying the fear of being deported or separated from her family.

Or think about Elizeth. She would wake up at 3:30 a.m. every day to prepare tamales and sell them before hurrying to school. She did this through elementary and middle school.

Classmates belittled Elizeth, calling her "la tamalera." Like Yesenia, Elizeth applied for DACA when the program was created. Eventually, Elizeth saved enough by selling tamales to pay her way through college. This is what they do. This is who they are.

Both Elizeth and Yesenia are my constituents; and to my colleagues in the Senate, DACA recipients are your constituents too.

Every DACA recipient has a story of homes lost and new homes found, stories of growing up, stories of pain and perseverance that demand action.

Ending DACA will shatter the lives of nearly 2 million people in our country brought here as children; and it will hurt their families as well. It will separate families and tear communities apart.

The stakes could not be higher. The end of DACA would uproot the lives of 600,000 DACA recipients, in addition to the more than 1.3 million migrants eligible for the program.

Aside from the fact that DACA recipients pay almost \$10 billion in taxes

each year; aside from the fact that more than 200,000 DACA recipients across the country stepped up for us as frontline workers during the pandemic; our obligation to save DACA, above all else, is a moral one. It is about who we are as a country.

The House has done its job. We passed the American Dream and Promise Act, and now we need the Senate to act on it. It is time to step up, save DACA, and codify it through congressional action.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. I thank the gentleman for sharing the economic impacts of DACA recipients because we need to highlight that; that any opposition to the American Dream and Promise Act is not based on the benefits it brings to our country because the economic benefits are amazing, so I appreciate the fact that the gentleman raised it.

The gentleman said how much taxes are paid. Households with DACA recipients pay \$5.6 billion in Federal taxes and \$3.1 billion in State and local taxes every single year. They create lots of after-tax income that leads to economic activity in the communities that they come from.

In fact, the importance of DACA and our Dreamers is so great that on October 20, 80 major businesses and trade associations wrote to congressional leaders in support of a bipartisan American Dream and Promise Act. The letter was signed by, among others, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Retail Federation, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Microsoft, Amazon, and many, many more because we know that Dreamers are essential to our economy.

What would happen if we let DACA die? If we let DACA die, an average of 1,000 Dreamers will lose their jobs each week in labor markets already experiencing shortages, such as healthcare, education, service industries, food production, and more because they would lose their jobs as their ability to renew would disappear. So every week, we would lose that.

It is like a drum, a drum, a drumbeat toward financial trouble when we already need to address the need for more workers in our country. We would lose the benefit that they develop for our economy; \$400 billion in economic benefit if we pass the American Dream and Promise Act, because we need to say, we are not just trying to save DACA, we actually want DACA to end because we are going to replace with the American Dream and Promise Act. We are looking for the American Dream and Promise Act because that ends DACA the way it should; not by death to a core that doesn't understand the benefit of this, but to the codification to give our Dreamers the path to citizenship they deserve.

That is why we are calling upon the Senate. We are asking to have—all of the Democrat Senators presently support the American Dream and Promise Act. So what we are looking for is 10

Republican Senators to join with the Chamber of Commerce, to join with the trade associations, to join with the people across this country, to join with their own constituents, with their own constituents.

I think we need to remember the amount of Republicans who supported the Dream and Promise Act in the 1970s. It is what our constituents want us to do. It is what the Senate constituents want them to do, from whatever State you are in.

We must ask the Senate to take action now. Let's codify this. Let's not punt down the road any more times. Let's actually pass the American Dream and Promise Act. Everybody wants it because we know without it, the consequences are dire.

I also want to remind everybody that many of these Dreamers are in mixed-status households, as we say. The Dreamers live with their children, if they are old enough, who are citizens; they live with spouses who may be citizens and legal residents; and they provide for the families at the same time that they are providing for our communities. They are providing for their families.

They come from many, many countries, not just Latin American countries. If you will notice up here, I cannot read it, but Koreans—we have many, many DACA recipients who speak Korean.

We have DACA recipients who speak all of the different languages of our world because they come from the many countries of our world to the United States. They have been brought here; and, once here, we have to remember the Dream and Promise Act has been introduced time and time again.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, was put in place as a placeholder so that we could pass the American Dream and Promise Act. The placeholder is calling upon us now to act. The placeholder must be replaced with the American Dream and Promise Act so that our children, those who will lead us up and will lead great lives in our community can find that path to citizenship.

So that is what we are asking our colleagues in the Senate to do. We sent you this bill months and months ago. You saw this bill in the 115th, 116th, and 117th Congress, and now it is time to pass it; now or never because we cannot wait. We cannot wait for the courts to act because Congress' duty is to act. Our duty is to see a problem and take action to correct it.

In Jeremiah 29:11 God's plan for us is not to suffer, but to have prosperity, hope, and a future. Our job in Congress is to create that prosperity, hope, and a future. This bill, the American Dream and Promise Act, has accomplished that plan to create prosperity, hope, and a future for those who have come and lived in our communities from the youngest of age. So, we call upon the Senate to act.

On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I am proud to stand with my colleagues who stood here and spoke in favor of passing the American Dream and Promise Act because, make no mistake: The DACA program is the result of the failure of Congress to live up to its obligation to create that prosperity, hope, and a future.

We need the DACA kids to continue their education. We need those who have been in this country from a very young age to be able to assert and have the protections of those who are presently enrolled in DACA.

Dreamers have been raised and educated here. They work in our communities. They raise their families. They attend our colleges. They serve in our military. They die for the country and the home that they have known.

We now ask Congress, we ask the Senate Republicans to hear those dreams and to pass the American Dream and Promise Act in whatever vehicle it must be. We urge them to consider including it in the omnibus, to include it in the NDAA, but to pass it.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOWMAN). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 600,000 DACA recipients who are terrified that a forthcoming court ruling will force them to leave the only country they've lived in and loved.

These young men and women came to the U.S. as newborns and small children. They've attended American schools, served in the U.S. military, and they contribute their multitude of talents to our nation's economy every day.

Despite having built their lives here, DACA recipients live with fear that their legal status will be ripped away from them by a disastrous court decision. They've lived with this uncertainty for over a decade, and they deserve a permanent solution.

I'm proud to have voted for the Dream Act which offers a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. The legislation passed the House with a bipartisan vote last year and is supported by the faith community, business leaders, law enforcement, and over two-thirds of the American people.

Despite being supported by a large majority of Americans, Senate Republicans have repeatedly blocked the Dream Act, forcing the lives of Dreamers to remain in limbo. This is unacceptable. Denying basic protections to these brave young men and women dishonors our proud heritage as a nation of immigrants.

Dreamers are Americans in all but name. They've been subjected to the cruelty of our broken immigration system for far too long, and it's time for Congress to live up to our promise to protect the Dreamers so that they

can continue to strengthen and enrich our Nation.

□ 1730

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN LOUIE GOHMERT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my absolute honor and privilege to be here tonight to honor one of our very own, one of our very own Texans, who has been here for 18 years. I am calling this the Louie Gohmert Special Order hour. But when you realize how many hours he has been up here, probably more than anybody else we know, it doesn't seem to be a fitting title.

There is no better way to honor my good friend, LOUIE GOHMERT. If you see the picture over here, he has been on FOX News. He is a great drinker of Dr. Pepper, Peanut M&M's, those are some of the things that LOUIE GOHMERT is known for.

I had a friend the other day that said: Louie can be pushy and obstinate.

I said: Really?

My friend said: Yeah, but he is actually the opposite now; he is obstinate and pushy.

I tell you what, LOUIE GOHMERT speaks his mind. He comes to this floor and says a lot of things, quite frankly, that we are thinking but a lot of people are not gutsy enough to say it.

He has been a true patriot. He is a champion for Texas' First Congressional District, and he is a fighter for everyone's freedoms. We are going to miss him.

Mr. Speaker, can I impose upon the gentleman (Mr. GOHMERT) to come down to the front?

He has had quite a distinguished career since before he got into Congress, when he got, what I like to say, demoted to Congress.

Ronald Reagan once famously said in a campaign: "I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit for political purposes my opponent's youth and inexperience."

Talking about youth, LOUIE doesn't look like he is 69, does he? But I remember when he did.

I tell you what, he is a great, great friend of ours. Y'all didn't know this was going to be a roast, right? He has been a great, great friend of ours.

Before I ever knew him, I saw him on FOX News much of the time, and I always looked up to him. I knew that he was a man of conviction, that he was a Christian, and that he spoke the truth the way it was. I really looked up to him.

When I came to Congress, I kind of confided in him. I said: LOUIE, I am beginning to have dreams. I keep seeing talking crickets, talking dogs, talking birds, talking cats, and even talking

donkeys and elephants. What is wrong with me? Do you think Congress is pressuring me?

He said: No, no, you are just having Disney spells.

Come on, that was funny, guys.

LOUIE has always had a great sense of humor. He has always been someone who was so wry and so right on with things. I always love having a conversation with him.

LOUIE, we appreciate you. I cannot tell you how much we appreciate you and what you have tried to do for Texas, by the way. I hope tonight will show through a little bit and show a lot of our appreciation for you.

You have never backed down from a fight for our freedoms.

You have never backed down from fighting for our democracy.

You have never backed down because sometimes the truth is hard to hear, even when you sent the media into a frenzy, quite a few times.

I always admired that about you. To say that you are going to leave big shoes is an understatement.

Who else in the history—we might want to look this up, Mr. Speaker. Who else in the history of this House has spent 17,340 minutes, 289 hours, and 12 days speaking on the House floor? Who else has done that? Probably nobody but our famous LOUIE GOHMERT.

LOUIE, you are going to leave a legacy of fighting tirelessly for what is good and right for the people you represent, not just in Texas, but in this country, religious freedom not being the least of those. We appreciate that about you.

You have not only fought tirelessly for the people you represent, but you have fought for every single conservative. There are a lot of people who will never be able to vote for LOUIE GOHMERT, but he voted for them every day, and we appreciate that about you, LOUIE.

When you leave Congress, you will be known for unapologetically fighting for and leading the conservative movement. Nobody has represented the conservative movement better than you have, LOUIE GOHMERT. I want to tell you, with your stance for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and for Christian values, you leave some really big boots to fill.

Thank you for all your hard work. We have a lot of friends here that want to say good things about you. They won't be as rough on you as I was, probably.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding.

I am proud to be here on the floor with my friend from Texas. He is someone that I have looked up to for a very long time. And to have served with him for the last 2 terms, for the last 4 years, has been an honor. I wouldn't be in Congress but for his support.

My parents live just down the road from Pittsburg where he grew up; they